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	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	FeO	CaO	MgO	K ₂ O	Na ₂ O	H ₂ O at 100 %	H ₂ O at 100 % + P ₂ O ₅	
I.	77.68	.14	11.81	.72	.51	.72	.18	5.00	2.96	.04	.27	.10 = 100.13
II.	67.45	.58	15.51	1.76	2.21	3.60	1.10	3.66	3.47	.14	.63	.12 = 100.25

Pegmatite.—As the conclusion of a very thorough discussion of the origin of pegmatite Crosby⁷ and Fuller declare that this rock is the product of crystallization from an igneous magma saturated with water—an igneo-aqueous solution. The authors, moreover, believe that no sharp line of distinction can be drawn between dykes and veins and, therefore, that veins are clearly entitled to some degree of recognition in the lithological classification.

BOTANY.⁸

Gray's Synoptical Flora.⁹—On the tenth of June, just twenty months after Fascicle I, Dr. Robinson brought out Fascicle II of the new edition of Gray's Synoptical Flora of North America. It includes the "orders" Caryophyllaceæ (by B. L. Robinson), Ficoideæ (by B. L. Robinson), Portulacaceæ, Tamariscineæ (by B. L. Robinson), Elatinaceæ, Hypericaceæ (by J. M. Coulter), Ternstroemiaceæ, Cheiranthodendreæ, Malvaceæ, Sterculiaceæ, Tiliaceæ, Linaceæ (by W. Trelease), Malpighiaceæ, Zygophyllaceæ, Geraniaceæ (by W. Trelease), Rutaceæ, Simarubaceæ, Burseraceæ, Anacardiaceæ, Meliaceæ, Aquifoliaceæ (by W. Trelease), Cyrillaceæ, Olacinaceæ, Celastraceæ (by W. Trelease), Rhamnaceæ (by W. Trelease), Vitaceæ (by L. H. Bailey), Sapindaceæ (by B. L. Robinson), and Polygalaceæ (by B. L. Robinson). It is thus seen that of these twenty-eight families, twelve were prepared by other hands than Dr. Gray's, and in several of the remaining sixteen more or less extensive revisions were made by Dr. Robinson.

We note with interest the much freer acceptance of disputed names than in the previous fascicle; thus we have *Impatiens aurea* Muhl. and *I. biflora* Walt. (instead of *I. pallida* Nutt. and *I. falva* Nutt.); *Vitis vulpina* L. (instead of *V. riparia* Mx.); *Vitis rotundifolia* Mx. (instead of *V. vulpina* of American authors); *Acer saccharinum* L. (instead of *A. dasycarpum* Ehrh.); *Acer saccharum* Marsh (instead of *A. sacchari-*

⁷ Technology Quarterly, IX, 1896, p. 326.

⁸ Edited by Prof. C. E. Bessey, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

⁹ *Synoptical Flora of North America*, Vol. I, Pt. I, Fascicle II. Polypetalæ from the Caryophyllaceæ to the Polygalaceæ, by Asa Gray M. D., continued and edited by Benjamin Lincoln Robinson, Ph. D., pp. 207 to 506. Issued June 10, 1897. New York, American Book Company.

num Wang.); and *Acer negundo* L. (instead of *Negundo aceroides* Moench.). A title page and an excellent index to Fascicles I and II, which are to be bound together, close this interesting part. The third Fascicle is now in preparation by Dr. Robinson.

—CHARLES E. BESSEY.

Britton and Brown's Illustrated Flora.¹⁰—Last August the first copies of Vol. I of this work were distributed, and about the middle of June of the present year copies of Vol. II reached the botanists of the country. The good opinion of the work formed from an examination of the first volume is confirmed by even a glance through the second. The outline figures continue to be most useful, and while not always absolutely distinctive, they are often fully as much so as the actual specimens. We have now and then seen criticisms of these figures by those who forget that it is impossible to show striking differences between species which nature has not separated widely, especially when the figures must be made as small as they are in this work. We feel that the artists who made these illustrations are deserving of much praise for the success with which they have done their work.

As to the text there remains little to be said beyond what was said in our notice of Vol. I (NATURALIST, October, 1896). The selection of type is so good that the eye catches without loss of time the items sought. The consistent use of the modern rules of nomenclature, readily familiarizes us with the comparatively small number of new names made many by the "reform movement."

The families of most interest in this volume are Ranunculaceæ, Crucifereæ, Saxifragaceæ, Rosaceæ, Pomaceæ, Drupaceæ, Mimosaceæ, Cæsalpiniaceæ, Papilionaceæ, Euphorbiaceæ, Violaceæ, Cactaceæ, Onagraceæ, Umbelliferæ, Ericaceæ, Vacciniaceæ, Oleaceæ and Gentianaceæ.

We notice that a list of metric units and equivalents is given at the end of the table of contents. Of what service it can be in a volume in which no metric measurements are used is difficult to make out. It only serves to call attention to the anachronism of ancient units in a modern text. The concluding volume will be looked for with great interest by botanists everywhere.—CHARLES E. BESSEY.

¹⁰ *An Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*, by Nathaniel Lord Britton, Ph. D., and Hon. Addison Brown. In three volumes. Vol. II, Portulacaceæ to Menyanthaceæ. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1897.